

REMARKS

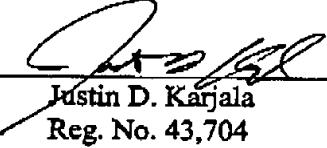
By way of the above amendments, claims 1-23 have been canceled, and claims 24-38 have been added. As such, claims 24-38 are presently pending.

The newly added claims add no new subject matter and their entry is respectfully requested. Disclosure of nucleotides 2118-50409 of SEQ ID NO:3 (as recited in claims 24 and 27) can be found in Figure 3T of the specification, which shows a stop codon beginning at nucleotide 2118 and a stop codon beginning at nucleotide 50407.

Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are in condition for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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